



The Best of Oregon

CITY of BEAVERTON

NEWS RELEASE

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CITY OF BEAVERTON RECEIVES BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY AWARD

- League of American Bicyclists recognizes City's commitment to bicycling -

BEAVERTON, Ore. – The League of American Bicyclists has designated Beaverton as a bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community. The award is given to cities that are continually making improvements for their bicycle community. Applicant communities are judged in five categories as they relate to bicycling: planning, engineering, education, encouragement, enforcement and evaluation. A community must demonstrate achievements in each of the five categories in order to be considered for an award.

"This is an important designation for our community," said Mayor Denny Doyle. "Cities around the world are striving to manage issues such as pollution, congestion, traffic safety and accessibility. By cultivating a bicycle-friendly community, we're one step closer towards solving these challenges.

The Bicycle Friendly Community Program provides incentives, hands-on assistance, and award recognition for communities that actively support bicycling. A Bicycle Friendly Community welcomes cyclists by providing safe accommodation for cycling and encouraging people to bike for transportation and recreation.

Recently, Beaverton's Bicycle Advisory Committee developed a plan of action that will further enhance the Beaverton bicycle community. Strategies in the plan include:

- Building community awareness and support for cycling in Beaverton
- Strengthening the relationship between the city and the Beaverton School District on bicycle-related issues
- Advocating and developing bicycle trail access and usage
- Advocating for the expansion and enhancement of bicycle trails
- Promoting Beaverton as a bicycle-friendly destination

"Bicycle-friendly communities typically experience a higher quality of life and are places where people want to live, work and visit," said Margaret Middleton, Bicycle Advisory Committee staff liaison. "Encouraging and providing a bicycle-friendly community is one way to improve public health."

Beaverton hosts multiple events that promote safe, confident and aware bike riders throughout the year. One of the best known events is Bike Beaverton, a family-friendly bicycling event featuring a safety rodeo and community ride. This year's Bike Beaverton will be held on Saturday, August 27.

The Bicycle Advisory Committee has also recently developed a bike route map for the Beaverton area. Printable and downloadable versions may be found at www.BeavertonOregon.gov/Bike or picked up at multiple locations, including Beaverton City Hall (4755 SW Griffith Drive), the Beaverton City Library (12375 SW 5th Street) and several bicycle stores in the region.

"We know we're on the right bike path," quipped Mayor Doyle. "We are committed to enhancing our quality of life in Beaverton through biking."

To learn more about the Beaverton Bicycle Advisory Committee or how you can get involved with the Beaverton Bicycle Committee, please visit www.BeavertonOregon.gov/Bike or contact Margaret Middleton at (503) 526-2424 or mmiddleton@beavertonoregon.gov.

ABOUT BEAVERTON

Beaverton was one of just four cities of its size recently recognized as a **"Smarter City" energy leader by the Natural Resources Defense Council** and **one of the 100 Best Places to Live in America** by *Money* magazine. In addition, Beaverton has been named **one of the safest cities in the Pacific Northwest** for three consecutive years, as one of the **best places to raise kids** by *BusinessWeek* magazine, an **All-America City finalist**, **one of the 100 Best Walking Cities in America** by *Prevention* magazine, the **Recycler of the Year** from the Association of Oregon Recyclers, a **Tree City USA** by the Arbor Day Foundation, a **Bronze Award Bicycle Friendly Community** designation by the League of American Bicyclists and as one of the Environmental Protection Agency's **Green Power Communities**. Beaverton also enjoys one of the most diverse populations among Oregon cities. For more information, please visit www.beavertonoregon.gov.

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